**Narrative techniques cheat sheet**

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| **Setting** (time & place)   * The surrounding wheat fields * The town of Acqua Traverse * The hole and abandoned house * Melichetti’s gravina * The Amitrano house | **Language**   * Tone and the mood: (Adjectives and verbs used) * Narrative point of view: from whose perspective, 1st 2nd or 3rd person. * Figurative language: Metaphor, simile, personification, onomatopoeia * Dialogue: Motives , Attitudes, Fears , Desires, Silences * Sentence structure: (fast slow, long short, formal or informal language) * Allusions: (references to Fairy tale tropes- (creatures, heroes) biblical (Judas, Lazarus)- Comics (Tiger Jack) * Imagery: Nature and harvest, Entrapment and cruelty, Death and the supernatural, Dreams and nightmares * Symbols/motifs: Darkness, Weather, Tiger jack, owls, table soccer game, wasps, dragons, monsters, vipers | |
| **Imagery**   * Nature and harvest * Entrapment and cruelty * Death and the supernatural * Dreams and nightmares | **Values**   * Family * Wellbeing of the community * Morals * Appearances (material and financial wealth) | **Theme/s**   * Loss of innocence (Consider the adults: are they ever innocent?) * Morality (Consider who behaves morally and who behaves immorally) * Courage (consider ‘cowardice’ also) * Betrayal (consider loyalty also) |
| **Characterisation**   * Authorial comments/description of the characters * What the characters say * How they speak * What others say or think of them * What the characters do * Relationships with other characters * Values represented by the characters and condemned by the author * Values endorsed by the characters * Author’s tone when describing characters * Authors style (use of language) * Setting or imagery connected with the characters * Motivations, actions | | **Structure**   * Conflict: Problem faced by characters, to be solved by end of story * Turning Point –a major change in direction * Climax- the point at which tension is at its greatest, a point of crisis * Dénouement- ‘unknotting’ of events and conflicts resolved * Resolution- produces sense of closure |

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| **PRACTISE SAC** Preparation Note: 2012 Assessment Report discusses types of topics and identifies their focus as: character, theme, reader/viewer interpretation, ways authors/directors express or imply a point of view and values and how the author/director uses structures, features and conventions to construct meaning. The report notes that, ‘Students who are able to demonstrate an understanding of how the construction, structures and features of the text operate in adding meaning were rewarded.’ | | |
| * Character * Theme * Context (background info)and Author POV * Features/conventions of novel | | Depends of the topic. Major and minor. Look at both perspectives-those who demonstrate it and go against it  Loss of innocence/guilt, Morality/Immorality, Courage/Cowardice, Betrayal/Loyalty  1970’s Italy, economic situation, kidnappings, organised crime, fairy tales, gender roles, poverty  Views/values on the issues in the topic  Setting, structure, language, imagery, characterisation, context, values, themes, symbols |
| TOPIC:  **Michele learns that loyalty and trust are far more valuable than money or objects.** | | |
| **1. Underline or circle the key words and then write synonyms for them.** | | |
| **2. Turn the topic into a question with easy words:** | | |
| **3.**  **Stance on the topic**: Agree completely Agree partly Disagree completely Disagree partly **Structure of paragraphs:** YES YES YES NO *or* NO NO NO YES | | |
| **4. What is the question asking you to focus on?** | Based on the topic, what are you going to focus on for each of the following? | |
| Which characters will your essay focus on and why? |  | |
| What themes will your essay focus on?   * Loss of innocence/guilt * Morality/Immorality * Courage/Cowardice * Betrayal/Loyalty | **Explain further** | |
| **Paragraph/Argument 1** | **Sub-Arguments (3-4)** | |
| **Paragraph/Argument 2** | **Sub-Arguments (3-4)** | |
| **Paragraph/Argument 3** | **Sub-Arguments (3-4)** | |
| **Paragraph/Argument 4 (rebuttal)** | **Sub-Arguments (3-4)** | |

Stuck? Get ideas from the info on the next page

**PRACTISE SAC Preparation** -Work through tasks. Only complete with information relevant to the topic. Use different colours/numbers/symbols to signify info. for your 4 arguments

**TOPIC A: Michele learns that loyalty and trust are far more valuable than money or objects. Discuss.**



Notes

**NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES**

**SLICVTS**

**Setting**

**Language**

**Imagery**

**Characterisation**

**Views/values**

**Themes**

**Symbols**

**Narrative point of view, four possibilities:**

1. **First Person** - Narrator uses *I* and *we*rather than *he, she, they*. Most often the narrator is a protagonist or one of the major characters. Sometimes the narrator may be an observer and a participant in the story.
2. **Third Person Omniscient**- An all-knowing narrator gives thoughts of characters, judgments about them, as well as details of action and dialog
3. **Third Person Limited Omniscient -**Narrator focuses on thoughts, feelings and actions of a single major character
4. **Third Person Dramatic or Objective -**Like a camera, the narrator reports only what can be seen and heard; no thoughts of characters are given except as spoken.

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| **Narrative Point of View** | **Advantages** | **Disadvantages**  **From what and whose point of view is the novel written?**   1. Michele, first person narrative, limited, present tense 2. 3rd person omniscient, present tense 3. Michele, first person limited narrative, past tense 4. Multiple characters perspectives, back and forwards through time   **Why and to what effect?** |
| **First Person** | * Eyewitness account, gives immediacy, realism to story * Author can create dramatic irony * Narrator can be unifying element | * No direct interpretation by the author * Bias or limited knowledge of narrator * Danger that narrator may transcend his knowledge |
| **Third Person Omniscient** | * God-like narrator gives thoughts of character, dimension to story * Most flexible: author can control omniscience | * Author can come between reader and story * Shifting from character to character may destroy unity |
| **Third Person Limited Omniscient** | * Realistic; we see world through one person * Ready-made unifying element * Useful characterization of point-of-view character | * Limited field of observation * Difficulty having character aware of all important events |
| **Third Person Dramatic or Objective** | * Impartial report * Offers most speed, action * Reader must interpret | * Author cannot interpret * Relies |

**Which of these narrative techniques will provide further evidence to support your arguments?**

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| **Language**   * Tone and the mood: (Adjectives and verbs used) * Narrative point of view: from whose perspective, 1st 2nd or 3rd person. * Figurative language: Metaphor, simile, personification, onomatopoeia * Dialogue: Motives , Attitudes, Fears , Desires, Silences * Sentence structure: (fast slow, long short, formal or informal language) * Allusions: (references to Fairy tale tropes- (creatures, heroes) biblical (Judas, Lazarus)- Comics (Tiger Jack) * Imagery: Nature and harvest, Entrapment and cruelty, Death and the supernatural, Dreams and nightmares | **Characterisation**   * Description of the characters * What the characters say * How they speak * What others say or think of them * What the characters do * Relationships with other characters * Author’s tone when describing characters * Authors style (use of language) * Motivations, actions |
| **Values -**Endorsed or critiqued by character and or author   * Family * Wellbeing of the community * Morals * Appearances (material and financial wealth) | **Theme/s**   * Loss of innocence (Consider the adults: are they ever innocent?) * Morality (Consider who behaves morally and who behaves immorally) * Courage (consider ‘cowardice’ also) * Betrayal (consider loyalty also) |
| **Symbols/motifs:**   * Darkness * Weather * Tiger jack * Owls * Subbuteo-table soccer game * Creatures- wasps, dragons, monsters, vipers | **Imagery**   * Nature and harvest * Entrapment and cruelty * Death and the supernatural * Dreams and nightmares |

**Setting**

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| **Setting** | **Describe**  (dot points) | **Related themes**  (list) | **What do these setting reveal about the characters?** |
| Melichetti’s gravina | * *small canyons* * *long crevasses and caves* * *scary place* * *threats –kidnappers, pigs, dogs* |  |  |
| The town of Acqua Traverse |  |  |  |
| The hole and abandoned house |  |  |  |
| The Amitrano house |  |  |  |
| The surrounding wheat fields |  |  |  |

**Characterisation**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Character** | **Relationships with other characters** (Good & Bad) | **Motivations for action** | **Supporting Quotes** |
| Michele |  |  |  |
| Pino |  |  |  |
| Teresa |  |  |  |
| Felice |  |  |  |
| Skull |  |  |  |
| Salvatore |  |  |  |

**Language**

Below is a list of the things you can discuss whenfocusing on the language used by the author:

* Tone and mood
* Narrative point of view: from whose perspective, 1st 2nd or 3rd person.
* Figurative Language: Metaphor, simile, personification, onomatopoeia
* Dialogue: conversation, inner reflection
* Sentence structure: fast slow, long short, formal or informal language
* Adjectives and verbs: used to set the tone and the mood
* Allusions: references to classical stories, biblical, history, literature
* Imagery-sensory: things that are seen, heard, felt, smelled or tasted by characters
* Symbols/motifs: Darkness, Weather -summer heat, coming storm), Tiger jack, owls, table soccer game, wasps, dragons, monsters, vipers

**Can you come up with an acrostic or acronym to help remember these items?**

**What kind of tone does the author use during key events? Describe how this tone is established.**

* Forfeit and Discovery-
* Visitor-
* Meeting of conspirators-
* Deal with Salvatore-
* Filippo is moved-
* Decision to kill Filippo-

Sites that explain further and include useful tone/mood words: <http://theeditorsblog.net/2013/04/19/tone-mood-style-the-feel-of-fiction/> <http://www.fallriverschools.org/Tone%20and%20Mood%20words%20(unedited).pdf>

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| **Which of these can I use as evidence to support my arguments?**  **Language** | **How?** | **Supporting Quotes**  **(Highlight/annotate them as needed)** |
| * Tone and mood * Narrative point of view * Figurative language * Dialogue * Sentence structure * Adjectives and verbs * Allusions * Imagery * Symbols/motifs |  |  |
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**WORD BANK**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Describing what the author is doing/the effect this generates** | | | | |
| Evokes  Explores  condones  Subverts | Creates  Contrasts  Elicits  conveys | Suggests  Illustrates  Questions  intensifies | Implies  Endorsed  Challenges  undermines | Reflects  Reinforces  Condemns  Affirms |

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| **Describing the authors techniques and strategies** | | | | |
| Narrative voice  Irony  Atmosphere | Imagery  Tension  symbolism | Juxtaposition  Conflict  Wit | Characterisation  Counterpoint  Duality/binary | Compare/contrast  Tone  Mood |

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| **Describing character** | | | | |
| Powerful  Envious  Self-seeking  Obsequious/obedient/attentive | Aggressive  Extroverted  Vain  Facetious/silly/foolish | Insecure  Introverted  Obedient  Loyal | Manipulative  Reflective  Rebellious  Devoted | Jealous  Shallow  Submissive  Subversive |

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| **NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES** | **TEXTUAL EVIDENCE:** Aspects to discuss that relate to the essay topic | **EFFECT/MEANING/FEELING** CONVEYED to the reader |
| Setting |  |  |
| Language |  |  |
| Imagery |  |  |
| Characterisation |  |  |
| Views/values |  |  |
| Themes |  |  |
| Symbols |  |  |

**Quotes bank**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Para.** | **Quotes –**short/key words only | **Said by/to when/where…** | **Significance** | **Narrative technique** |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |